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On October 5 of this year I had the great privilege of signing into law a Joint Resolution of the United States Congress making Raoul Wallenberg of Sweden an honorary citizen of the United States.

In so doing, I made a pledge that my Administration would take all possible steps to ascertain his whereabouts and secure his release to freedom. To my way of thinking, it is only right that free people everywhere work to obtain the freedom of Raoul Wallenberg and preserve the memory of his deeds, for Raoul Wallenberg personifies the ideal of uncompromising determination in the furtherance of human dignity and freedom.

The memory of what Raoul Wallenberg did, of how many lives he saved during the dark days of Nazi domination over Hungary, must never leave us. His work is a tribute to the finest qualities of the human spirit. I want to add my voice to yours tonight to honor the name and deeds of Raoul Wallenberg and to congratulate the Simon Wiesenthal Center for choosing as the recipient of their award one of the true heroes of our time.

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